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300 INTERFACE WITH OTHER AGENCIES/PROGRAMS

301 Overview

This chapter discusses other agencies, entities and programs that DES/DDD staff need to be familiar with, and may work with, in the course of their day-to-day responsibilities. For each program or entity, the program is described and additional information is provided concerning how individuals can apply for benefits/services. Appendix 100.A indicates the telephone number and address of agencies and programs mentioned in this chapter.

302 Social Security Administration (SSA)

SSA, an agency of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), determines eligibility for and administers the programs that provide retirement, survivors and disability benefits to qualified individuals or their survivors. The SSA also issues Social Security Numbers (SSNs) and maintains employment and salary histories on all U.S. workers. The SSA determines eligibility for the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program; this program provides benefits to persons who are unable to work because of age or disability. Under some circumstances, SSA maintains eligibility for individuals who no longer meet the requirements for cash benefits, but whose special circumstances qualify them for SSI medical assistance only. For additional information on the programs SSA administers, to apply for a SSN or to begin the application process for benefits, contact SSA.

303 Department of Economic Security

In Arizona, the major source of support services for individuals with developmental disabilities is DES. There are several programs administered by the Department for which individuals with developmental disabilities may be eligible. These programs are described within the context of the Division responsible for program administration.

303.1 Division of Benefits and Medical Eligibility (DBME)

This Division determines initial and ongoing eligibility for several public assistance programs including the following:

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF):

TANF provides monetary assistance to families with children, when one or both parents are absent, unemployed, underemployed, disabled or deceased. To be eligible, families must meet certain income and resource criteria. Individuals who are receiving TANF may qualify for Medicaid through AHCCCS. Individuals can apply for TANF at the appropriate DES field office.

Medical Assistance:

As discussed in Sections 204.2 and 303, Medical Assistance (also called Medicaid, Title XIX and AHCCCS) emphasizes preventive health care and provides a full range of medical services including office visits, physical examinations, specialty care, immunizations, emergency dental services, behavioral health services, pregnancy care, laboratory and x-ray services, hospital care, prescriptions and medically necessary transportation. Several different agencies complete eligibility determinations for Medicaid including DES, the Social Security Administration (SSA), counties and AHCCCS.

DES/DBME completes eligibility determinations for Medical Assistance and other eligibility groups discussed in Section 303. Medical Assistance eligible individuals are those who receive Medicaid services, but are not eligible for assistance through TANF or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) programs.

Food Stamps:

Food stamps are coupons which can be used to purchase most food items. Items such as alcoholic beverages, tobacco, pet food, soap, paper products and other non-food items cannot be purchased with food stamps. Households with limited income and resources may be eligible for food stamps if they meet the eligibility criteria which are

usually less stringent than TANF criteria. If a family receives food stamps, most children under age 14 are eligible for AHCCCS under the State funded Eligible Assistance Children (EAC) program.

Individuals who receive services from DES/DDD, who also receive SSI from the SSA, and live in State operated or private non-profit community residential settings with no more than 16 residents, may be eligible for food stamps. Foster children are not eligible for food stamps, unless the entire household applies for food stamps and is found eligible. Adults who live in adult developmental homes may be eligible if their income falls within food stamp income limits. Individuals can apply for food stamps at the appropriate DES field office; application for TANF, Medicaid and food stamps and other DES programs can be made on one application.

General Assistance (GA):

GA provides monthly income to individuals 18 years of age and older with financial need or a disability who do not qualify for another form of assistance, such as TANF or SSI. Persons required to care for a person with a disability at home may also be eligible for GA. Applications for GA can be made at the appropriate DES field office.

For more information on these programs, contact DBME.

45 CFR 233; 7 CFR 273
A.R.S. § 46-292; § 46-233
A.A.C. R6-3-401, et seq.; R6-3-701, et seq.

303.2 Division of Employment and Rehabilitation Services (DERS)

This Division administers the Unemployment Insurance (UI) program which provides temporary financial assistance to eligible unemployed people based on their previous earnings. It provides job seeking assistance to a variety of applicant groups.

Through the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), DERS provides an array of services to individuals with physical and/or mental disabilities in order to allow these individuals to achieve greater independence and/or employment.

One component of DERS, Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Services, provides vocational training and re-training to individuals who have a physical or mental disability which results in a substantial impediment to employment, and could benefit, in terms of an employment outcome, from VR services. VR has intergovernmental agreements (IGAs) with various State agencies so that many previously unqualified individuals with disabilities now qualify for VR services. The Navajo Nation operates its own VR program. DERS offices are located throughout the State; rural areas may be served by traveling VR counselors. For additional information, contact DERS.

The Child Care Administration (CCA) administers programs that provide child care for children for less than 24 hours per day to enable parents to participate in employment, training or job search or as part of a Child Protective Services (CPS) foster care plan. Families may choose from a variety of types of child care providers including family child care homes, child care centers and day care group homes. In order to meet programmatic eligibility requirements, applicants must be employed, attending an educational or training program, looking for employment or incapable of caring for their child.

A.R.S. § 23-601, et seq.; § 23-506

303.3 Division of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF)

DCYF has two components: Administration for Children, Youth and Families (ACYF) and Comprehensive Medical and Dental Program (CMDP).

Within ACYF, Child Protective Services (CPS) is charged with ensuring the safety of children by investigating reports of suspected child abuse, neglect, abandonment or exploitation. It also assists parent(s)/caregivers in receiving available services which will help improve family relationships and strengthen their ability to provide good child care. If this is not possible, alternative solutions or placements are sought. Other services which may be provided include medical and psychological assessments, shelter care and legal assistance.

Further information can be obtained by calling CPS. (See also Chapter 2000).

Other programs administered by ACYF include In Home Support Services, which provide services to families to solve crisis situations and stabilize the family unit; Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment;

Adoption Services and Foster Care. For additional information regarding these programs, contact ACYF.

CMDP provides medical, dental and psychiatric treatment to children who are determined by the court to be:

- a. dependent or delinquent and placed in a foster home;
- b. dependent children who are placed with a relative;
- c. dependent children placed in a certified adoptive home prior to the final order of adoption;
- d. dependent children in an independent living program; or
- e. dependent children in the custody of a probation department and placed in foster care.

For further information, contact CMDP. (See also Chapter 900).

A.R.S. § 8-546

303.4 Division of Aging and Community Services (DACS)

One component of DACS, Aging and Adult Administration (A&AA) provides community based services directly, or through subcontracts, to abused, neglected or exploited adults and older persons having significant social and economic needs.

As part of A&AA, Adult Protective Services (APS) receives, evaluates and investigates allegations of abuse, neglect or exploitation of incapacitated adults including persons living in nursing facilities or other institutions. If necessary, limited emergency services can be provided. Such services include shelter care, home care or psychological evaluations. In addition to its investigative responsibilities, APS:

- a. assists incapacitated adults to remain in the least restrictive setting;
- b. helps adults to achieve and/or maintain self-sufficiency by providing or referring them to supportive services;
- c. provides information about community resources;
- d. advocates on behalf of individuals; and
- e. serves as long-term care (LTC) Ombudsman representative. APS employees visit LTC facilities on a

regular basis and serve as advocates and problem solvers for residents. They also investigate reports of abuse, neglect and exploitation in the facilities.

These services are provided without regard to income.

Further information may be obtained by calling APS. Additional information is also contained in Chapter 2000.

The other component of DACS, Community Services Administration (CSA), administers several programs which are designed to assist individuals and families move through or out of crisis situations. These programs include:

- a. Community Support - This program utilizes a variety of funding sources to support community based delivery systems (including Emergency Services Network) which serve people in crisis.
- b. Social Services Block Grant (Title XX) - This block grant provides funds for services which have been identified through local planning and State prioritization to address critical problems in a specific geographic area. For example, funding has been provided to programs which work with people who are homeless or who have been victims of domestic violence.
- c. Community Services Block Grant - This block grant provides funds to community action agencies which work with low income individuals and communities.
- d. Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program - This program provides direct assistance to utility companies on behalf of individuals who are having difficulty paying their bills and also works with the Department of Commerce on the weatherization of residential settings. Through Special Crisis Assistance, contracted providers issue direct assistance payments to individuals in crisis due to high utility bills.
- e. Emergency/Transition Shelter State Funds - This program provides short term shelter to individuals and families who are homeless.
- f. Refugee Resettlement - This program provides work and adjustment related services to documented refugees to enable them to achieve and maintain self sufficiency as soon as possible after resettlement in Arizona.

- g. Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program - This program provides supplemental commodities from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to low income individuals.
- h. Telephone Assistance - This program provides telephone service to low income individuals and families with a documented medical need.
- i. Senior Telephone Discount - This program provides a discount on certain telephone rates as well as inside wiring maintenance and installation charges to low income individuals over the age of 60.

Eligibility criteria differ for each of the above programs, but all have stringent income requirements. For further information, contact CSA.

A.R.S. § 46-451; 46-452

303.5 Division of Child Support Enforcement (DCSE)

DCSE is charged with the administration, collection and enforcement of court mandated child support orders. DCSE also assists in the location of absent parents and paternity determinations and works with parents and the court system to establish child support payments and schedules. Individuals seeking the assistance of DCSE can apply at the appropriate DES office. A collection fee may be charged non-TANF families. For further information, contact DCSE at the number noted in Appendix 100.A.

45 CFR 302 - 303
A.R.S. § 46-404 - 405

304 **AHCCCS Administration**

AHCCCS administers Arizona's Medicaid (Title XIX) program and the State's non-Medicaid health care programs. Eligibility is guided by federal and State laws and regulations in accordance with Arizona's Medicaid State Plan. Eligibility coverage groups can be divided into two major categories: federally funded and those groups funded entirely by State and county funds.

Those individuals eligible under federally funded groups are referred to as categorically eligible. All categorically eligible individuals must be Arizona residents, U.S. citizens or eligible aliens, have or apply for a Social Security number (SSN) and assign rights to AHCCCS for possible

third party payors of medical expenses. Examples of categorical eligible individuals may include the following major groups:

- a. SSI-Cash recipients;
- b. SSI-Medical Assistance Only (MAO) recipients;
- c. TANF-Cash recipients;
- d. SOBRA recipients;
- e. TANF-MA recipients; and
- f. Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries (QMB).

Other individuals may qualify for AHCCCS if they are medically needy based on household income and assets. Children under the age of 14, whose family's income is low (but not low enough to qualify as medically needy) may also be eligible for AHCCCS.

State and county funded eligibility groups include the following:

- a. medically needy/medically indigent (MN/MI);
- b. eligible low income children (ELIC); and
- c. eligible assistance children (EAC - must be under age 14).

Medicaid eligibility is determined by DES for TANF-Cash, TANF-MA, and EAC groups and certain SSI-MAO applicants. SSA determines eligibility for SSI cash recipients and counties determine eligibility for MN/MI and ELIC groups. AHCCCS eligibility offices determine eligibility for ALTCS and QMB applicants. Individuals who receive TANF, SSI and some children who receive food stamps may qualify for AHCCCS without filing a separate application.

AHCCCS health plans provide medical services which the individual's primary care physician (PCP) determines are medically necessary, such as doctor's office visits, specialty care, pharmacy services and medical supplies, laboratory and x-ray services, inpatient services, pregnancy care, 24-hour emergency medical care, emergency dental and behavioral health care and medically-necessary transportation. AHCCCS also covers early and periodic screening, diagnosis and treatment (EPSDT) services for eligible individuals under 21. The EPSDT program includes a series of preventive screenings and services to help children remain healthy, including physical exams, immunizations, nutritional screenings, eye exams and necessary glasses, hearing tests and necessary hearing aids, dental screening, exams, and treatment, laboratory work, behavioral health services and tuberculosis and anemia screening.

As the State agency responsible for administration of Arizona's Medicaid program, AHCCCS has numerous oversight responsibilities. Because DES/DDD is an ALTCS program contractor, it must submit various reports and information to AHCCCS and cooperate in AHCCCS's oversight activities. These reports, information and oversight responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- a. financial, utilization review/quality assurance and grievance reports;
- b. encounter information;
- c. service authorization/placement information;
- d. behavioral health status reports;
- e. auditing of Individual Support Plans (ISPs) to determine compliance with ALTCS requirements;
- f. participation/cooperation in completion of Inspection of Care (IOC) reviews in NFs and ICFs/MR. IOC is a review process designed to determine the quality of care being given to ALTCS individuals, and the appropriateness of the services being provided; and
- g. participation/cooperation in the ALTCS Support Coordination audit process.

A more complete discussion of AHCCCS's oversight responsibilities is included in Chapter 2300 of this manual.

A.R.S. § 36-2905; § 36-2907; § 36-2931; § 36-2971

305 Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS)

ADHS is mandated to serve the public health needs of all Arizona residents. Of its five major divisions, the three that have the greatest impact on DES/DDD are Children's Rehabilitative Services (CRS), the Division of Behavioral Health Services (DBHS) and the Office of Maternal and Child Health (OMCH).

305.1 Children's Rehabilitative Services (CRS)

CRS is primarily a State funded program (it also receives some Title XIX funding for Medicaid eligible individuals) which serves individuals under 21 years of age who reside in Arizona and meet the medical and financial criteria established by ADHS. Medical criteria include handicapping or potentially handicapping conditions which have the potential for functional improvement through medical, surgical, or therapy treatments. CRS is not an acute health care or primary care provider. Each CRS eligible individual is expected to have a PCP, pediatrician or health clinic from which to receive primary health care. Application for CRS services can be made at CRS clinics in Phoenix, Flagstaff, Tucson, or Yuma. See Section 912.6 of this manual for additional information.

A.R.S. § 36-263

305.2 Division of Behavioral Health Services (DBHS)

DBHS is responsible for the planning and administration of publicly funded behavioral health services in the State. One aspect of its programs is the provision of behavioral health services to individuals who are eligible for Medicaid.

Behavioral health services for DES/DDD ALTCS eligible members are provided by DES/DDD through an Intergovernmental Agreement with DHS. DHS contracts with five (5) Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (RHBAs) for the provision and management of ALTCS behavioral health services.

DBHS provides services to all Medicaid eligible individuals through five (5) RBHAs. The RBHAs are capitated to ensure the provision of case managed, community-based, accessible care in the least restrictive and most cost-effective setting. Individuals may contact the RBHA themselves or may be referred by their PCP, social service agency, family members, school districts, health plan, or other State agencies.

AHCCCS will pass through DES/DDD to DHS the federal share of behavioral health services payment on a capitated basis for all ALTCS members in DES/DDD. DES/DDD provides Support Coordination for these individuals, but obtains behavioral health services through the DBHS RHBA provider network. See Section 1403 of this Manual for additional information.

A.R.S. § 36-3408

305.3 DHS Licensing

DHS Licensing performs health, safety and sanitation inspections in DES/DDD funded and licensed adult developmental and child developmental foster homes as well as HCBS provider homes in which respite services are provided. Additionally, a representative from the Fire Marshall's office performs fire inspections in community residential settings.

DHS also performs reviews of Intermediate Care Facilities for the Cognitive Disabled (ICFs/MR) on an annual basis. See Chapter 2300 for further information.

305.4 Office of Women's and Children's Health

The Office of Women's and Children's Health administers the Newborn Intensive Care Program (NICP), the Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), and the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP). Individuals can apply for these programs at ADHS offices statewide:

- a. NICP is a system of consultation, medical care, transportation and follow-up services for critically ill newborns. Home visits by public health nurses, and clinic developmental evaluations are also available through this program. To be eligible, the newborn must be a graduate of a neonatal intensive care unit in a Level II or III Arizona hospital. For additional information, call NICP;
- b. WIC provides participants with coupons to purchase approved food items, including cereal, juices, eggs, cheese, milk, peanut butter, beans, or infant formula. WIC also provides screening for nutritional risk, nutrition education, and referrals to other programs. Eligible individuals include nutritionally at risk pregnant women and new mothers, infants and children up to the age of five. To be eligible, income requirements must also be met. For additional information, contact WIC; and
- c. CSFP provides a monthly package of commodity foods, and nutrition education to participants. Eligible individuals include women who are pregnant, breast feeding, or postpartum; children up to six years of age; and women who are enrolled in the AHCCCS, Food Stamps and/or TANF programs. For additional information, contact CSFP.

7 CFR 246 - 247
A.R.S. § 46-331

306

Arizona Department of Education (ADE)

The Arizona Department of Education is administered through the State Board of Education. The Board is the governing and policy setting entity of the Department. ADE has the statutory responsibility to carry out the requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA, P.L. 105-17), formerly the Education for all Handicapped Act (EHA). The Exceptional Student Services (ESS), within ADE, has been assigned the responsibility to ensure that all Arizona children with disabilities have access to a free appropriate public education (FAPE).

The duties of ADE/ESS include:

- a. providing information and technical assistance to local and private education agencies, other State agencies and the community;
- b. determining compliance with State and federal laws and regulations;
- c. distributing State and federal funds;
- d. developing and supporting innovative projects; and
- e. assuring that appropriate training is available for those concerned with the education of children with disabilities.

To receive special education services through the local education authority (LEA), a determination must be made by the LEA that the child is eligible for special education under one of the categories funded by State and federal funds and requires services in order to benefit from education. Services that are available include, but are not limited to, screening, information and referral services, transportation, assistive technology, speech pathology, psychological and counseling services, and physical and occupational therapy. Coordination of transition services from school to adult living is also available.

As the lead agency, DES has entered into an Interagency Agreement with ADE, Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (ASDB), ADHS and AHCCCS to develop and implement a comprehensive and coordinated system of early intervention programs and services to infants and toddlers with developmental delays (AzeIP). The system's primary purpose is to ensure a smooth transition for children and their families from early intervention services funded by DES/DDD to public education. For further information on AzeIP, see Chapter 1400 of this manual.

A.R.S. § 15-235

Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (ASDB)

ASDB is an independent State agency that provides education to children in Arizona who have sensory impairments. An individual can be admitted to one of the schools if he/she is a State resident, age 6 to 21 years and has a sensory impairment to the extent that he or she can not acquire an appropriate education in his/her own school district.

Schools are located in Tucson and Phoenix. They provide residential and day services to children who either have sensory impairments or have mild multiple disabilities. Other services that are available include:

- a. Arizona Diagnostic Treatment and Education Center (ADTEC) - serves children with moderate multiple disabilities in classroom settings, and performs educational assessments;
- b. preschool program - serves 4 and 5 year olds in classroom settings in the Phoenix and Tucson areas; and
- c. regional program cooperatives - three programs work with school districts to provide educational programs and related services to pupils with sensory impairments and supplemental services to assist school districts in providing these services.

ASDB also administers the Parent Outreach Program for the Hearing Impaired. This free program provides information, audiological services and parent advisors to families of children from birth to 5 years who have hearing impairments. Audiological services include hearing tests, hearing aid evaluations and recommendations, assistance in locating funds for hearing aids and education on all aspects of hearing loss. These services are also free of charge.

Families can receive weekly home visits from a parent advisor, a specially trained local professional. The parent advisor meets with the family to help parents/responsible persons:

- a. understand their child's hearing loss;
- b. use and maintain hearing aids;
- c. develop their child's listening skills;
- d. increase their child's speech and language through aural/oral and/or total communication approaches; and
- e. identify local resources.

For further information, contact ASDB.
A.R.S. § 15-1302

308 Native American Agreements

DES/DDD currently has a number of informal agreements with several Native American tribes. These agreements allow DES/DDD to provide Support Coordination and other services to Native Americans on reservation. DES/DDD has an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Navajo Nation to provide services on their reservation. DES/DDD continues to work toward formal agreements with other tribes. Your DPM/DPA will have a list of Native American tribes and the counties in which they live.

309 Advocacy/Advisory Groups

309.1 Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities (GCDD)

The GCDD was established in 1974 by PL 91-517 (and re-established by PL 101-26) to provide coordination and planning in the field of developmental disabilities. The council consists of 23 members appointed by the governor for three year terms. At least one-half of the members shall be persons with developmental disabilities, parents or guardians or other immediate relatives of persons with developmental disabilities. The other members include representatives from the principal State and local agencies providing services to people with developmental disabilities.

Duties of the Council include:

- a. serve as a forum through which issues regarding current and potential services and programs for persons with developmental disabilities may be discussed by consumer, public, private, professional and lay interests;
- b. advise the private sector, the executive and, if requested, the legislative branches of State government on programs and policies pertaining to current and potential services to persons with developmental disabilities and their families;
- c. submit periodic reports, including an annual report to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate and other reports, as requested, concerning services to persons with developmental disabilities;
- d. review, comment and make recommendations as necessary on all plans of this State which affect services and programs for persons with developmental disabilities

and forward a summary of all recommendations and responses from agencies to the appropriate legislative committees if requested;

- e. develop, prepare, adopt and periodically review and revise a council plan in order to establish the following:
 - 1. goals and objectives to meet the needs of persons with developmental disabilities. These goals and objectives shall be based on identified needs and shall be designed to cover gaps in existing services;
 - 2. alternative plans to achieve the goals and objectives established pursuant to (1) above;
 - 3. plans to improve the quality of services and programs provided to persons with developmental disabilities;
- f. monitor programs and services for persons with developmental disabilities to encourage efficient and coordinated use of resources in the provision of services; and
- g. facilitate the coordination of the local District advisory councils for the developmentally disabled in the six planning Districts to serve as a community information network throughout the State.

A.R.S. § 41-2451, et seq.

309.2 Developmental Disabilities Advisory Council (DDAC)

The DDAC is a 12 member council established by A.R.S. § 36-553 to function as an advisory council regarding programs and services for individuals with developmental disabilities. The Council meets at least four times a year to advise and make recommendations to the Assistant Director of DES/DDD on:

- a. coordinating and integrating services provided by State agencies and contracted providers to individuals with developmental disabilities;
- b. the health, safety, welfare and legal rights of persons with developmental disabilities;
- c. implementing the State plan;

- d. DES/DDD policies and programs;
- e. rate-setting methodologies;
- f. assessing DES/DDD's annual needs;
- g. monitoring DES/DDD's annual budget; and
- h. on candidates for the position of the DES/DDD Assistant Director.

The 12 members, who are appointed by the Governor and serve staggered three year terms, must include:

- a. a parent or guardian of an individual with developmental disabilities who is under the age of 18;
- b. a parent or guardian of an individual with developmental disabilities who is over the age of 18;
- c. one member who represents a licensed residential services provider;
- d. one member who represents a licensed provider of nonresidential services;
- e. one person with a developmental disability;
- f. two members who represent different disability advocacy organizations;
- g. one individual from the designated protection and advocacy organization (currently, the Arizona Center for Disability Law);
- h. the AHCCCS Director (or designee);
- i. the DES/DDD Assistant Director;
- j. one member from GCDD; and
- k. one member representing foster parents of children with developmental disabilities.

The DDAC must submit an annual report of its activities to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the DES Director by December 31 of each year.

309.3 Arizona Center for Disability Law

The Governor has designated the Arizona Center for Disability Law as the protection and advocacy system for individuals with developmental disabilities in Arizona. Once an individual is determined eligible for Center services and the issue is determined to be a direct result of the individual's disability, the individual or his/her family members may receive the following services:

- a. information regarding rights or procedures to secure services;
- b. referral to other agencies or services;
- c. technical assistance, including discussions of options and strategies, preliminary discussion of legal issues and review of written material;
- d. individual advocacy, including filing administrative complaints and representing individuals at administrative hearings;
- e. systemic advocacy, including the filing of classwide complaints, individual and class action litigation and legislative advocacy; and
- f. public education and awareness programs regarding the legal rights of individuals with developmental disabilities.

Provision of all of the above services are subject to the Center's current priorities and availability of Center staff.

309.4 The Arc

The Arc is part of a national non-profit voluntary organization whose goal is to help all people with developmental disabilities reach their full potential. The Arc's activities include:

- a. identifying the causes of disabling conditions and promoting understanding of the abilities and needs of individuals with developmental disabilities;
- b. advocating for farsighted and compassionate legislation;
- c. monitoring the quality of care being provided in group homes and institutions;

- d. providing information, support and advocacy to individuals with developmental disabilities;
- e. working with State and local agencies to increase employment opportunities for adults with disabilities;
- f. assisting parents and foster parents to understand their rights so they can participate effectively in educational planning; and
- g. helping parents learn about delayed development and how to obtain early intervention services.

309.5 Raising Special Kids

Raising Special Kids provides practical information, emotional support, assistance in obtaining educational services, referral services and assistance in developing and coordinating support groups.

309.6 Area Agency on Aging

This group coordinates the planning, development and delivery of services for individuals over 60 years of age.

309.7 Arizona Consortium for Children with Chronic Illness (ACCCI)

ACCCI works with State agencies and the State legislature educating them on the needs of families of children with chronic illnesses and disabilities. They also assist individual families in obtaining needed services through advocacy and a family centered care fund. A quarterly newsletter is published updating parents and professionals on issues related to children with special needs.

309.8 Arizona Bridge to Independent Living (ABIL)

Provides information and referral to persons with disabilities, home modification, training/referral for attendants/persons needing attendants, personal living skills training, job training/development/placement, counseling, advocacy regarding legal rights, economic benefits and responsible self advocacy for persons with disabilities.

309.9 Epilepsy Society of Central Arizona

Provides a comprehensive program to increase information, education and awareness of epilepsy to the general public and special groups.

309.10 United Cerebral Palsy

Provides transportation, health education, outpatient rehabilitation, special education, information and referral, infant stimulation, home care, parent support and education groups, equipment and toy loan and supported employment/vocational program.

309.11 Autism Society of America, Phoenix Chapter

Maintains a voluntary organization of parents and professionals devoted to the education, treatment and diagnosis of individuals with autism.

309.12 Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers (ICC)

Under the provisions of Public Law 105-17, Part C (AzEIP), the federal government provides funding to states to plan, develop and implement a statewide, family focused, coordinated, interagency program of early intervention services for infants and toddlers from birth to 36 months who have disabilities, and their families.

The ICC was created by the Governor under federal and State law to advise and assist state agencies with the performance of their responsibilities to this population. The Council consists of 15 members appointed by the Governor including representatives of parents of children with disabilities, the five State agencies responsible for the early intervention program, providers of early intervention services, the State Legislature and an individual who trains providers of early intervention services.

A.R.S. § 8-651

310 University Affiliated Programs (UAP)

UAP is a discretionary grants program for public and private non-profit agencies affiliated with a university. UAPs develop and provide interdisciplinary educational experiences for students from a variety of disciplines as well as conducting basic and applied research. UAPs also address the needs of local and State service systems by modeling and disseminating best practices.

The Institute for Human Development (IHD) at Northern Arizona University (NAU) was awarded a UAP grant on October 1, 1990. IHD's role is to collaborate with other universities, colleges, agencies, providers, and consumers throughout Arizona to develop and implement effective training, service demonstration, technical assistance and dissemination activities in order to improve the lives of persons with developmental disabilities.